

10-18-96

VALLEY STAR

Volume 49, Issue 6

LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE

Friday, October 18, 1996

HIGHLIGHTS

The Ugly Duckling, a play in the series of student directed lab shows will be Thur. Oct. 17 @ 8 p.m. and Fri. Oct. 18 @ 1 p.m. & 8 p.m. in the Shoe Box (Lab Theatre). Everyone is welcome to attend this free event.

The Music Department's **Campus Concert Series**, as scheduled for Thur. Oct. 17 will welcome a singer TBA at the Music Recital Hall @ 11 a.m. Admission is free and everyone is welcome.

The next **Monarchs Football Game**, Valley College vs. Pierce College, at Pierce College, is scheduled for Fri. Oct. 18 @ 7 p.m.

Join the Astronomy Club in the **Planetarium Show: "What a way to Go"** as they explore the ends of stars on Fri. Oct. 18 @ 8 p.m. at the campus Planetarium. For more info, call (818) 781-1200, ext. 335.

TAE Honor Society invites students, faculty and staff to attend a **Pizza Party Fund Raiser** at Numero Uno. Dine in or take out, Thur. Oct. 17, from 5 to 9 p.m. Numero Uno is located at 12835 Victory Blvd. in N. Hollywood. Call (818) 766-7184 for more information.

Free Writing Workshops open to all students. A workshop on Punctuation- Tue. Oct. 22 @ noon & 6 p.m.; Comma Splices- Wed. Oct. 23 @ noon; and Developing Paragraphs- Thur. Oct. 24 @ noon.

"TAP: The Best Way to Transfer" is the next **Lunch time Workshop** available to all students. Michael Gold is conducting the workshop Tue. Oct. 22 from noon to 1 p.m. @ FL 102.

A **CSUN Rep.** will be on campus Mon. Oct. 21 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Monarch Square. Walk-in advisement only. A **UCLA Rep.** is scheduled to be at the Transfer Center on Wed. Oct. 23 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Stop by the Transfer Center office in Admin. 126 for an appointment and more info.

The Financial Aid office is holding an **Ability to Benefit Test** Wed. Oct. 29 @ 2 p.m. in Admin. 126. Visit the Financial Aid office in bungalow 13 for more info.

The Police Expo will be holding a bi-annual **Recruitment/Crime Prevention Expo** this Sat. Oct. 19 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. It will be held at the L.A. County Fairgrounds located @ 1101 W. McKinley Ave. in Pomona. Contact J.K. Terrel for more information (213) 666-1293.

"What is Dyslexia?" and related learning disabilities information will be available free to the public Tue. Nov. 19 at Kaiser Permanente-Woodland Hills, Auditorium A, Entrance 5, from 7 to 9 p.m. For more information call the Orton Dyslexia Society (818) 506-8866.

Classes in **modern conversational Hebrew** now open for enrollment beginning the week of Oct. 20. The 12-week course requires advance registration. Contact Stefani Patrusky for information or registration at (213) 852-6524.

Valley College groups & organizations may submit flyers and other information to be printed in **HIGHLIGHTS**. Submit info. to B25 by noon on the Monday of the week of publication.

Toyota Crumpled in Head-on Crash

Although there were no injuries, witnesses estimate the vehicle's speed at about 40 mph.

By REBECCA FOWLER
STAFF WRITER

A red Toyota Corolla collided head-on with a black Jeep Cherokee as it made a left turn from parking lot A onto Fulton Ave., Wednesday, according to campus police.

The accident occurred at approximately 9 a.m. A bystander who was getting into his car at the time of the accident said, "I didn't see anything, but I heard it. It sounded like an explosion."

Nick Goossen, the driver of the Cherokee was leaving the parking lot on his way to work, when the accident occurred. "I was barely going 5 mph and he was going so fast he never saw me," said Goossen.

Goossen got into his truck and moved it back into the parking lot. After checking for damages to his Jeep he said, "I double checked before turning. There were no cars coming from either direction. I was halfway across the outside lane when this guy came flying around the cars that had stopped to allow me to turn."

Arsen Ashchyan, the driver of the Toyota was upset as he moved his car from blocking the traffic. "I switched lanes because those



Maria Ivey / Valley Star

The younger sister of the driver, Arsen Ashchyan, surveys the damage to their mother's Toyota Corolla.

cars were taking too long to turn and I had to get to class," he said.

The front of the Toyota was completely crushed. "There was a lot of smoke and steam coming from the radiator. Ashchyan surveyed the damage to the engine and asked, "Does anyone have a phone so I can call a tow truck?"

Campus police student cadet, Kimberly Ware radioed the call to the campus police headquarters. Officer Frank Dallas assessed the situation. He said, "The accident was a routine fender-bender and a police report didn't need to be completed because there were no injuries."

Even in an accident where there are no injuries campus police help the students. Dallas gave Goossen and Ashchyan forms to fill out so they could exchange the proper information needed for insurance claims.

As they exchanged information, Ashchyan said, "Every morning about this time cars trying to get in this parking lot back up traffic. No one is leaving class at nine in the morning. How was I to know someone would be coming out of the lot?"

surance claims.

Gabriel Corpus who witnessed the accident claimed, "That Toyota had to be doing at least 40

mph and the driver never looked to see why the other cars had stopped."

As a cadet, Ware helps in patrolling the parking lots. She said the students sometimes are in such a hurry they don't really pay attention to what is going on around them.

According to Ware if the drivers would slow down accidents like this one could be avoided.

End of Closure for the Photo Lab

By ADAM ADLER
STAFF WRITER

After a two-week shut down, the Valley College photo lab was allowed to reopen Tuesday after a new instructional assistant was hired from the District's approved list.

The position of Instructional Assistant Photo had been filled by Steve King, who was in charge of supervising the lab during its open hours. King's provisional status continued until a permanent employee could be found to fill the position.

The hire for the person had to come from the list of candidates sent by the Classified Personnel Commission, which approves all the classified staff in the district. They sent out a list of candidates who were available for the position to the colleges.

King said the problem was caused by "simple bureaucracy." He said it was because when his position ended there was no one to replace him.

The lists were received shortly after Aug. 23, according to Mary Ann Breckell, vice president of administrative services. Hiring was required to take place two weeks after the list were received. "Everybody knew once the list came in that we had to start," she said.

Breckell said because of a delay the hiring process ran over the two week deadline, although she did not know what caused the de-

lay. When Valley College failed to meet deadline, the commission sent a letter specifying King's final work day, Breckell said. She said she recalls that letter was received the week of Sept. 20.

King's last day was Sept. 26. King said he received notice on Sept. 18, giving him a week's notice.

Frank Sinsheimer, acting dean of academic affairs, was responsible for giving King notice of termination. He said he received notice to begin hiring at the time he gave King notice of termination. He also said he did not receive the hiring list, but that Breckell did. He said that Breckell received the list from the commission and then gave him notice to start hiring.

Sinsheimer said he did not know about the letter about the hiring going over deadline. "We got a directive from the commission on when his last day to be able to work would be, and we only got that a few days before the last day," he said.

Sinsheimer did say that he had to go through a process of asking for a replacement. He said it took about a week and a half instead of the usual week.

Although Breckell said she was unsure what held up the hiring process, she did say it was possible it was in the process of clarifying what the requirements of the position would be.

She said when the list from the commission arrives she receives a letter from the prospective supervisor requesting the position be

filled. Breckell then sends the letter to the person who submitted it for clarification on what requirements the position has.

King's termination caused a two week gap causing the photo lab to be closed until the new assistant, Frank Schlegel, could be hired. Another candidate was interviewed and offered the job the first week the lab was closed. The candidate refused the job.

The time the lab was closed caused a major problem for photo students. The photo lab is the only place where the majority of the students can do the technical part of their assignments. The only other time when the students were able to use the lab in this period was when a photo class was taking place.

"It bugs me, the fact that there isn't some way to keep someone on for the balance of the semester," said Tony Barnard, Photo 21 instructor. Barnard said what he found unsettling was that the rules seemed to be indifferent to the major difficulty for the students and the program.

"This is something that you have to take as a major. The lab is a necessity and there for is needed," said Marjorie Sityar, a Photo 20 student. Sityar was one of the students affected by the lab being closed.

Sityar said that the entire class is behind because of the closure. "They should have done something else, where they could have had someone on stand by if something happened," she said.

Greater Avenues for Independence

By ALICE GARABEDIAN
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

GAIN (Greater Avenues for Independence) helps people earn high school diplomas, college credit and job skills. To qualify, program members must be on welfare and AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children).

Lynne Brower, the new director of GAIN, said their priority is job attainment, and to achieve this they must learn the skills to get and keep a job.

GAIN offers child care to these families, school and transportation costs to and from work while they are attending the program. Because of new legislation, block grants will be issued to each state and the states will then decide how and where the money should be used.

The GAIN office sends AFDC recipients to colleges such as Valley College to begin the program. The purpose is to teach men and women to be self-sufficient. Hundreds of recipients and graduates have already accomplished their goals through the program.

One recipient Patty, who asked that her last name not be used said, "The program is benefiting me, I tried it out and continued going and got my GED."

"The program is very helpful, continued Patty. "Most of us are single parents, and the program

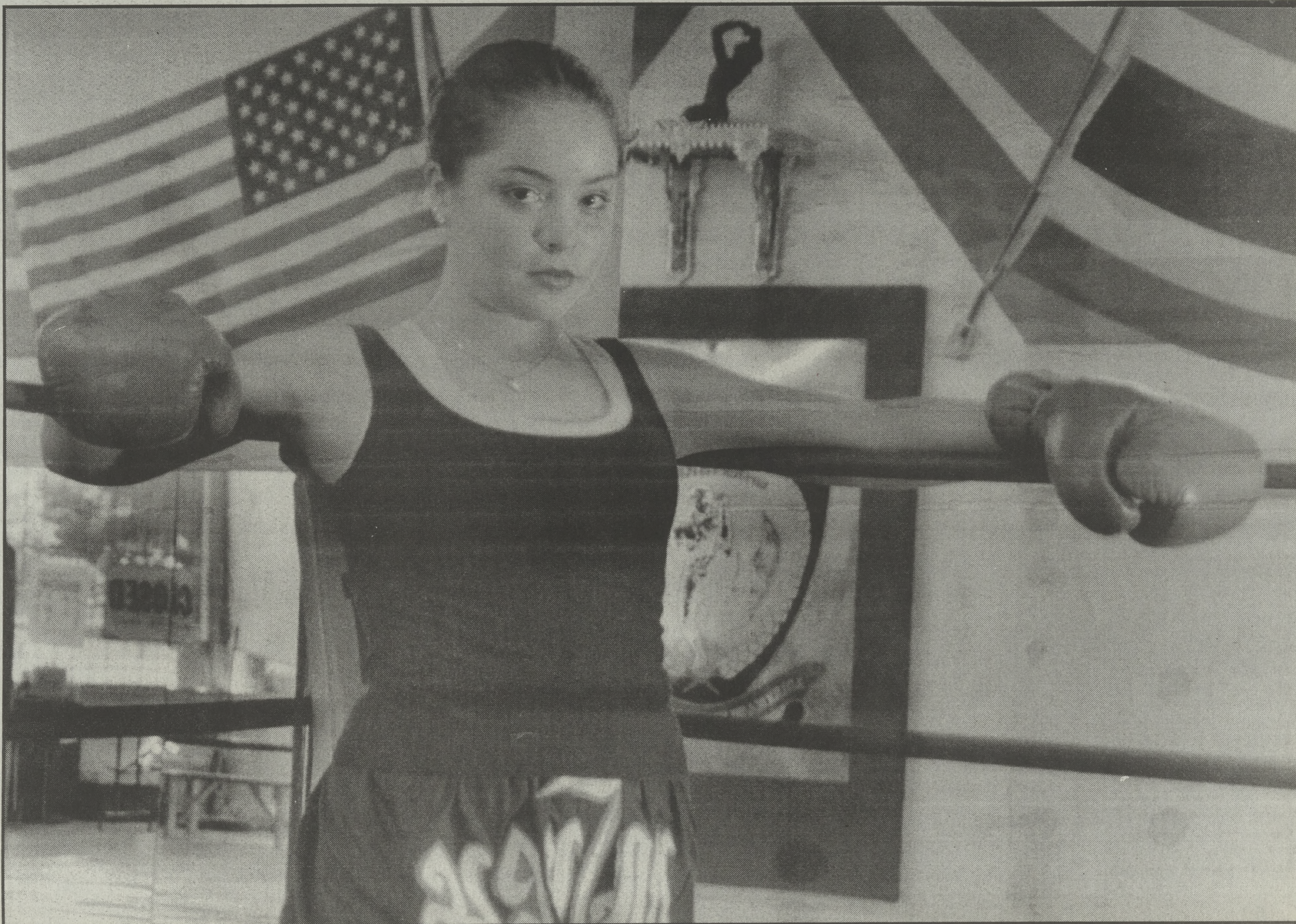
helps further ourselves, and we become role models for our children. The only negative side to GAIN, is that they don't sign up people for the program as quickly as they should. Many can benefit from this because everyone needs some kind of education, some kind of job training, and knowledge for your future and this is the first step, and it's very helpful."

The program is open-entry, open-exit which allows people to join the program whenever they like. It is also short term, only three to six months, no longer, to help meet the employment needs of a rapidly changing population.

The program includes Basic Skills Instruction such as ESL, ABE (Adult Basic Education), and GED preparation, which offers a fee waiver, (unlike the GED courses Valley College offers which cost \$39). Concurrent enrollment allows participants to attend vocational training while in basic skills instruction or part-time employment.

Career opportunities include helping with basic services, assessment and vocational counseling, mentoring, job preparedness workshops, and job placement assistance.

For more information call Lynne Brower at (818) 778-0242. Her office is located in bungalow 49, the JTPA (Job Training Partnership Association) bungalow.



Valley College Takes 15 Awards at Northridge.

The Los Angeles Valley College papers, Valley Star and Crown Magazine took home 15 awards in the Journalism Association of Community Colleges (JACC) Southern Section conference and contest on October 12.

Over two dozen schools from California and Arizona attended the conference at Cal State Northridge. In addition to the contest, JACC featured workshops, seminars and speakers. The contest had two major sections, the mail-in contest and on-the-spot contest.

In mail-in entries for the 1995-96 school year, Valley took nine awards. Valley College's Crown Magazine received the General Excellence award.

The Crown also dominated the magazine opinion article section. Winning first place was the Star's Editor-In-Chief John Tarr, second place went to Jennifer Coman and Laura Mac Donald won third. April Tate won an honorable mention for profile articles.

In other mail-in entries, the Star published four award winning articles. For editorial cartooning Tate took fourth place. Rod Goodman won first place in news photography. And finally, Tarr earned two honorable mentions in sports feature writing category.

In the on-the-spot competition, Valley won six awards. In the copy editing category, Linda Thomas received an honorable mention.

The Star's Entertainment editor, Rebecca Fowler, won fourth place in sports writing. Tarr received first place for editorial writing.

Cartoonist Leo Smith won two awards, second place for his editorial cartoon and an honorable mention for his critical review of the short film, "The Lion's Den."

The Star's photo editor, Maria Ivey, took an honorable mention for the bring-in photo featured above.

A Day For Celebration or Remembrance of Shame?

Students of Valley College use Columbus Day to express their feelings of discontent.

By MONICA LID
STAFF WRITER

The official name is Christopher Columbus Day. A celebration to honor the discovery of the "New World" in 1492, which is celebrated once a year with parades in numerous cities throughout America.

At Valley College a different kind of celebration took place on October 14, the celebration of Native American Day.

More than 40 people had gathered in Monarch Square during lunch hour Monday to celebrate their Native American heritage on the anniversary day many consider to be the start of Native

American genocide.

Rudy Ortega Sr. of the Chumash tribe spoke of the importance of preserving the Native American culture. "Our people were here long before Christopher Columbus and the Vikings," said Ortega. "We are the original people."

In addition to performing a traditional bear dance alone, Rudy Ortega Jr. got spectators to participate in a friendship dance and another bear dance while Ortega Sr. supplied the drumbeat.

After the dance Ortega Sr. encouraged the participants to learn the dance steps of these traditional Native American dances.

"Each tribe dances their own dance," he said. "But all you have to do is create the steps by listening to the drumbeat."

Monday's event was arranged by MEChA and according to Jose Marquez, one of the organizers, the plan was to have a panel speaking on Native American issues, but because of a short plan-

ning stage, this fell through.

"The event was still a success though," said Marquez. "We are not here to tell people how to celebrate this day, but we want to create awareness of our heritage, as well as remember the dislocation and killing of our people."

A celebration of this sort is very appropriate in California where illegal immigration is currently a pressing issue. Californians hear of people trying to cross the American border on a daily basis.

According to Marquez, the term illegal immigrant is a misnomer because many people who are being stigmatized this way today descend from people who walked this land thousands of years ago.

"Europeans set these borders," he said. "The Native Americans believe that the land belongs to everyone."

Columbus was the first one to bring evil to this land, and according to Marquez his is not an act worth celebrating.

It's a Win-Win Deal All Around

Cooperative Education Program helps students earn college credit for working.

By LIZ RODRIGUEZ
STAFF WRITER

Working students who wish to earn college credits while making money need look no further. Cooperative education helps students earn college units on the job.

Co-op exists in only five of the nine Los Angeles Community Colleges, including Valley College. Co-op works with student's employers, finding new ways to improve employees and relating the improvements in seminars which the students have to attend.

Any student who works either full or part-time and is taking at least three units at Valley College can sign up. The job does not have to be related to one's major, anyone with a job is qualified.

The students are required to attend two seminars during the semester. The seminars take place on many different days, the students choose which day to attend.

Then students come up with at least three objectives, learned in the seminars, which will help make the job more interesting. The

student then works with a co-op counselor to help achieve their goals.

A student whose job is related to their major can earn up to four units per semester, depending on how many hours worked. A total of 16 units can be earned in four semesters.

Students whose job is not related to their major can earn three, and a total of six units can be received in two semesters. Eight of those units are CSU transferable. For other four year colleges or universities, the amount of units accepted varies.

"It's a win-win deal," said Co-op Director Judith Trester.

The employer has a more productive employee, they save money since they don't have to train their employees. Students are happy since they enhance their work skills, earn extra credits and receive money as they learn, according to Trester.

Attendance this year has increased 20 percent from 190 last year to 238 as of October 7.

Students who wish to join Co-op can call (818) 781-1200 ext. 272 or go to bungalow 48 Mon. thru Fri. 8 a.m. to noon. Co-op is open Thurs. from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Last day to apply is October 25.

THE VALLEY STAR NEEDS YOU!

Inquire at Bungalow 25.

Watch!
Jerry Lewis
STARS
ACROSS
AMERICA!
MDA LABOR DAY TELETHON

TV's
longest-
running
love
story

TELETHON
AIRS
SEPT. 1-2

CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS



THE CROSSROADS

MDA — where help and hope meet.

MDA Muscular Dystrophy Association
1-800-572-1717

Death Is Not An Option, It Is A Decision

By JOHN TARR
STAFF WRITER

The character is fictional, used to illustrate a point. The facts are true.

My situation is not one of sadness. I'm going to die, it's only a matter of when. I prefer sooner to later, which is why I have seriously contemplated suicide and decided to act upon my decision, against my parent's wishes.

They are only keeping me alive at this point because they are unwilling to face the reality of my death. Sometimes parents are so concerned with their own feelings they forget about how the person with the disease feels.

It was on the eve of my twenty-third birthday when the doctors diagnosed me with acute myeloid leukemia, one of the most aggressive and deadly strains. My life expectancy was estimated at about one year. There is no hope for a cure, only for prolonging a painful existence.

Intensive chemotherapy was



started immediately which has weakened me to the point where it is difficult to get out of bed each morning. The pain is intense and constant. Everything from exotic medications to vitamin A derivatives have been tried on me. A bone marrow transplant is out of the question because of my diverse heritage.

I am no longer me, I am a vegetable waiting to be harvested.

Only one option is left which

holds any hope of peace, death.

The idea first crossed my mind while I was lying in bed, clenching my mother's hand. Her tears fell upon my pillow and I wondered how many more tears would come when I died.

There is no longer anything good that can come about from my suffering each day. My parents want me to live because it would be easier for them than if I died. But would it be easier for me?

The medication they prescribed to help ease the pain dulls my senses and scatters my thoughts. The doctors keep telling me to hang on. Hang on for what, death? I am no longer me, I am a vegetable waiting to be harvested.

Assisted Suicide, It is Murder

By REBECCA FOWLER
STAFF WRITER

Suicide by definition is the intentional taking of one's own life. Assisting someone in suicide is murder.

The public frowns on assisted suicide for a reason. It is unethical for a doctor who has taken an oath to save lives, to turn around and help a patient take their own life. The contradiction of actions goes against medical ethics as well.

Jack Kevorkian - "Dr. Death," is perhaps the most controversial doctor currently helping terminally ill patients commit suicide. By assisting patients with suicide, he is betraying the instincts of a doctor to heal and save lives.

In each of the deaths Kevorkian facilitated, the patient took the final step in the process, yet he supplied the weapon. Those patients would not have died at that particular time because they had no way of getting the equipment needed to commit suicide. This essentially nullifies the suicide theory, it is murder.

A parent leaves a loaded gun lying around for a teenager who is emotionally disturbed, and the teenager uses that weapon to commit suicide. By law, that parent is responsible for the child's death.

When a person attempts suicide, the police intervene. Doctors are called to examine the suicidal patient, and for protection against additional attempts, the patient is usually locked down for

their own good.

Once the patient receives the proper treatment and is stabilized, the patient is allowed to return home. Suicide is against the law, and it is seen as an act of cowardice.

A terminally ill patient who wants help to end their own life is pleading for relief because of the agony they are enduring. Their mind is no longer functioning in a normal capacity, it is an act of desperation.

The body has natural survival instincts, and when it can no longer deal with pain and suffering, the body shuts down. These people are asking for help. They need a physician to relieve their pain and suffering through care and comfort.

There are so many advancements in medical techniques and pain control that fewer and fewer people need to suffer.

Patients who are terminally ill will eventually die, when nature has decided the body can no longer endure. If suicide is the patient's way out of dealing with their life, then suicide should be committed solely by the patient.

California, as well as 43 other states, does not recognize assisted suicide as legal. Some segments of society argue against physician-assisted suicide. It sends the wrong message.

The double standard of being obligated to save a life, and in the interests of the patient, also sometimes taking the life, is in violation of the Hippocratic Oath.

Down to Earth...

It'll make your teeth curly and your hair straight!

By LIZ RODRIGUEZ
STAFF WRITER

The Earth provides natural resources to cure illnesses. Many skilled doctors have used these resources to create drugs to cure ailments. In the past, there were not enough doctors to attend to every medical complaint. Therefore, home remedies were developed. Before science created modern medicine early pioneers, settlers and farmers used household products to create "cures" for common ailments.

WARNING: Some of these recipes did work, most did not. Do not try these at home.

One remedy for asthma was to sniff a pinch of Borax up the nose each morning.

To get rid of drunkenness one would drink half a teaspoon of ammonium chloride in a glass of water.

For heartburn take chalk. Yes, the same stuff your teacher uses, ground into a powder. Mix with ground peach leaves in a glass of hot water and drink after eating.

Sore throat? They would mix one tablespoon of sulfur with three tablespoons of water and gargle it once an hour.

These remedies did not have any real medicinal effects on the users but since they did cause a funny feeling people believed that they did work. Or maybe they did provide some relief, for about five minutes. Today, these and other recipes are still used. My family is a perfect example. Whenever someone has a stuffed nose they get hot water put salt in it and sniff it up their nose. Does it work? Try it and find out.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I was dismayed to read the diatribe against EOPS (Extended Opportunities Programs and Services) in the September 20 issue of the *Star*. Of course, your entertainment editor has every right to express her opinion.

I would think, however, that as a journalist, she would ensure that her facts were accurate and objective. Throughout her article she refers to a counselor who gave her information; she probably spoke with one of our staff members since our counse-

lors do not discuss eligibility.

I suspect that the crux of the problem is your editor's confusion of financial aid eligibility with that of EOPS. EOPS is not a financial aid program. Being eligible for financial aid does not qualify a student for EOPS.

Ms. Fowler takes state legislators to task for allowing EOPS to have special requirements while describing herself as a TAP and financial aid student. She obviously approves of "special" treatment for students who need financial assistance or for

"honor" students, especially when she is included.

Although she seems very emotional over this issue, she never asked to speak with me, the director.

A student must meet all five of the following criteria to qualify for EOPS: 1. Qualify for a BOGW (fee waiver) A or B; 2. Be a California resident; 3. Enroll in 12 or more units; 4. Have fewer than 70 degree applicable units; and 5. Have proof of previously completing or current enrollment/recommended enrollment in remedial English or Math.

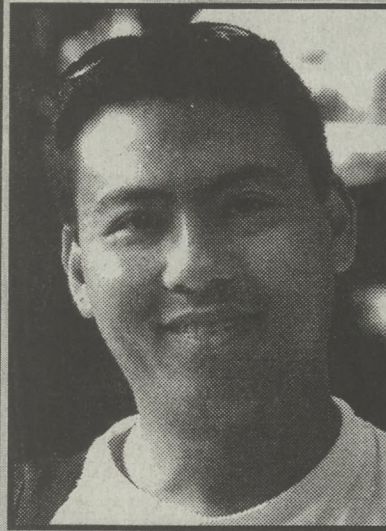
As an aside, many EOPS students are on the Dean's List and in TAP.

I am well-aware that many of Valley's students need help with acquiring texts but EOPS is not a text-book program. For students who do qualify, assistance in purchasing textbooks is just one of many services provided.

Doris Richardson
Director, EOPS



Should Assisted Suicide Be Legalized?



James Hughes

Major: Photojournalism

"Yes. What's the point of living when you are suffering. I would definitely have someone help me end my life if I was in that kind of situation."



Deborah Harrington

English Instructor

"Yes. There are educated, responsible, and human ways to alleviate human suffering. I think that legal, assisted suicide within certain frameworks should be available to those who are ready to die with a sense of dignity."



Allie Koranyi

Major: Sociology

"I believe that people should have the right to die if they choose. By taking away that right they are infringing on one's personal decision."



Susanna Laitinen

Major: Broadcasting

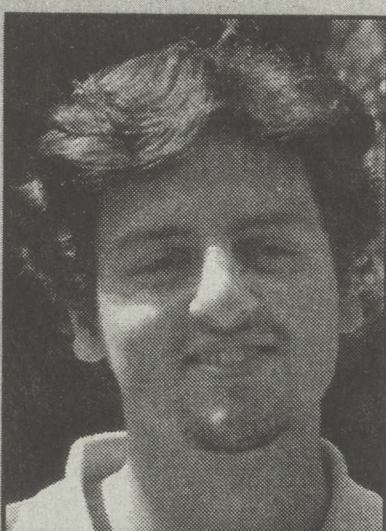
"Yes. I think it should be legal because who would want to lay in a bed for maybe 20 years and not knowing anything? I wouldn't want my family to see me that way."



Jana Hartgrove

Major: Health Edu./Science

"I am a strong believer in assisted suicide. I believe if a person has been declared terminal by at least 3 doctors and there is no chance of getting better they have the right to end their lives."



Rejman Khosravian

Major: Biology

"No, because I don't believe in suicide at all."

Photo Survey by CAROLA DANIELSSON

Valley Star Staff

Editor in Chief.....John Tarr
News Editor.....Adam Adler
Opinion Editor.....Monica Lid
Entertainment Editor.....Rebecca Fowler
Feature Editor.....Carmen Pinto
Advertising Manager.....Kelli Morgan
Photo Editors.....Maria Ivey
.....Carola Danielson
Cartoonists.....Ben Tsui
.....Leo Smith
Proofreader.....Joye Geertsen
Advisers.....Ed Bond
.....Candy Nall
Photo Adviser.....Tony Barnard

Published Thursdays throughout the school year by students of the Journalism and Photography classes using computers and Aldus Pagemaker.

Represented by CASS
Advertising Service
1800 Sherman Place
Evanston, IL 60201

Editorial and Advertising Offices
5800 Fulton Avenue, Van Nuys, CA 91401
(818) 778-0275 Advertising: (818) 778-0239

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✪ LETTERS ✪ LETTERS ✪ LETTERS ✪ LETTERS ✪ LETTERS

The Valley Star will receive and, if possible, publish letters from its readers. The Star reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 250 words. Letters are subject to editing if they are obscene, libelous, or make racial, ethnic, religious, sexist, or sexually oriented denigrations. Letters must be signed and include student's ID number. Letters may be dropped at the Valley Star Bungalow 25, by Monday morning for the following Thursday.

Gothic Style Thrills and Chills Haunt Valley Residents

A night of terror awaits the dare-devils who temps fate at Spooky House.

By REBECCA FOWLER
STAFF WRITER

Second in a series of haunted house reviews.

"The Spooky House" epitomizes the fun, excitement and surprises Halloween dare-devils seek in haunted houses.

With state-of-the-art thrills and chills young and old alike can experience the sheer terror of nightmarish gloom and doom.

A massive 6,500 square foot construction full of computerized special effects, animatronics and visual contraptions will frighten and spook the toughest customer.

Sounds of distress echo in the night as you travel through the graveyard. The stench of death fills the air and terror creeps upon you. There is no turning back once you have entered the spooky zone.

The crackling of electricity shatters the silence as you enter the torture room. If you have ever wondered what the inside of an electrocution chamber looks like, here is your chance to find out. Encounter the high tech voltage regulator in person, but don't for-

get to wear shock absorbers.

Next you are exposed to the demonic horrors in the exorcist room. The floor trembles beneath you and the bed rises in front of you. Can your heart survive more adventure?

Alien entities are dying to trap you and take over your body in the poltergeist room. Your soul yearns for comfort as the evil spirits absorb your aura.

Don't dare enter alone. Arachnophobia comes to life in this maze of madness. The greenhouse is an attraction that is certain to make your skin crawl.

If you are lucky enough to survive these rooms there is a chance of surviving the mad circus room and the mazes that will trap you indefinitely. Well, long enough to make you wonder if this night will ever end. The Spooky House will intrigue every aspect of your imagination.

Operation hours for The Spooky House are Friday thru Sunday from 3 p.m. to midnight and on Halloween until 1 a.m. For the first hour of operation each day the spooky tour is toned down for the little night crawlers. Located 6701 Variel Ave. Woodland Hills. Near De Soto and Vanowen. Admission price is \$5.50.

DUTCH AND REED



Here lies Kinsley in the Valley pumpkin patch. Is it possibly the right patch? Only the Great Pumpkin knows...

Valley Music Program on the upswing

Valley College's Music Department had a highly successful 1995-96 year according to Professor Dianne Winthrob.

Students in the theory program participated in an Original Composition Competition and the results were outstanding.

Christian Latimer won first place for his composition entitled Canon. Ted Kawamura placed second for his Nature's Hymn for chorus, conga and woodblocks.

The department annually presents \$500 scholarships to the music majors who have shown exceptional achievement in theory and performance. Singer Miyuki Hayashi received the award.

The Fall '96 Campus Concert Series is a part of the on-going campus events. There is a concert every week on campus, in the Music Department. Most of the performances are held in the Music Recital Hall.

Some of the other upcoming events include the performance by the Valley Philharmonic Choir on November 17. The concerts perform by the Symphony Orchestra. The traditional holiday concert featuring the choirs and soloist from Valley to be held December 8.

With the addition of the Commercial Music Program, Valley college students who are interested in the non-performing area of music can pursue careers in areas such as recording arts, composition, arranging and copying.

With new staff, and new programs, Valley's Music Department is forging ahead.

Courtesy of Professor Dianne Winthrob of the Valley College Music Department.

Four friends have made a mistake that will change their lives forever.

**KEVIN BACON
ROBERT DE NIRO
DUSTIN HOFFMAN
JASON PATRIC
BRAD PITT**

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Welfare Reform: Are Illegal Immigrants Causing New Laws?

By REBECCA FOWLER
STAFF WRITER

During a weekly meeting at the Valley Shelter welfare recipients argued over who was to blame for the recent changes in the welfare system.

The recipients discussed the effect the new reform was having on their families.

A misconception abounds. Some say illegal immigrants are responsible for the new reforms. This has increased dissensions between Americans and illegal immigrants receiving benefits.

"Why do black people blame us for the welfare changes?" asked Ariella Gonzales, a Mexican-American welfare recipient residing at the Valley Shelter.

A little irritated Gonzales continued. "And why do they act like we are the only illegal immigrants?"

Sherice Washington, another residence responded. "Because all you see is Mexicans, everywhere you go, you're surrounded by non-English speaking Mexicans."

As the recipients began to argue Abigail Vega, the social worker counseling the group reminded the women they needed to remain civilized towards one another.

"I'm trying to change my life but there is so much negative crap to deal with, I can't take it," said Lisa McDonnell the only Caucasian in the group.

McDonnell expressed the hardships her and her son face being the minorities on welfare. "I'm not a minority on the outside but in here, I am. The system is set up to help you guys, not me," said McDonnell.

"Bull..." Washington cut in angrily. "We wouldn't have to be on welfare if we could get jobs like white people. Now they are stopping welfare because of all the aliens."

Lucia Reyes, an illegal immigrant disagreed with Washington. She said, "It's not our fault. More second and third generation blacks are on welfare and you guys complain the most."

Vega interrupted the women. She asked them the question why they felt the need to blame one another for the changes implemented and not the government?

The women simultaneously blurted out answers. Gonzales said, "The government doesn't care about us or what we want, they care about people with money. We don't have a voice in politics, Blacks and Whites do."

Lucia Reyes, an illegal immigrant from Mexico, interjects. "The problem is not about who should get welfare and who should not, its about being a legal citizen. Those are the ones the government cares about."

Reyes explained her fear of being deported. She said the only reason she was able to remain in the US. was because her son was born in California.

Vega addressed the issue of illegal immigration and the impact it has on American citizens. She said, "Illegal immigration affects social and economic growth. Regardless of citizens opinion on the issue, illegal immigration is wrong."

Vega told the women their anger directed at one another was hiding their own fears. She said their feelings on the issue of illegal immigration and welfare reform were compounded because

as individuals they had no impact on the government.

"To deny the existence or importance of class division is the same as saying racism exists in the past and has been replaced by reverse discrimination," said, Vega.

As their discussion on welfare reform continued, the women directed their anger at the government.

Washington said, "I just don't trust the government. They pretend to be for the people, all politicians do is lie. What can we do to change things?"

Reyes said, "I left my country because of poverty. I left my husband because he hit me. I have nowhere to go but here. I am trying for three years to get citizenship, why can't they change those laws?"

Gonzales said, "I don't think the government has the right to deny help to illegal immigrants. That's what's wrong, not immigration."

According to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims, illegal immigrants primary motivation for coming to the US is not the public benefits, rather, the need for jobs. Illegal immigrants are barred from most public benefits programs.

The benefits extended to illegal immigrants are: elementary and secondary education, prenatal care, nutritional assistance and emergency medical care under Medicaid.

The withholding of these benefits would be more costly than extending the benefits. Immunizations has been justified for reasons of public safety and health. It is the interest of the public and not the illegal immigrant that has been deemed to be paramount.

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Still Making Tracks: The New Allure of Heroin

By JENNIFER COMAN
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Al Pacino, as Bobby: Ever try shootin' glue?
Kiel Martin, as Chico: You mean sniffin' it?
Bobby: I mean shootin' it.
Chico: No. You know what the best high of all is?
Kitty Winn, as Helen: What is it?
Chico: Death.
From the 1970s film
The Panic in Needle Park

The choice came down to this—to either clean up or die, according to the 48-year-old man answering phones at Impact House. He spoke with a pasty voice, stopping, stumbling and pausing in-between sentences. "I've loved it (heroin) since the first time I did it," he said.

He started using heroin at the age of 21 and kept up a daily habit until six months ago when he checked himself into Impact House, a Los Angeles drug rehabilitation center.

"I attempted suicide two times, then that was the only thing I thought of," he said. "I wanted off of this earth, I felt that death was my only solution. After I got some clarity and thought, I realized what I had to do, clean up."

He is one of the estimated 500,000 to 750,000 heroin addicts in this country, but only one in the thousands who decide to seek help and see that "there is a new way of living."

It is young America's fastest growing drug culture: heroin. "H," "horse," "smack," "a nod," call it whatever you want, it's all the same; a prescription for either a slow progressive death or an excruciatingly tormented "clean up" that will make death seem like a luxury.

According to the Los Angeles Police Department Narcotic Arrests and Seizure Statistics (July 1996), heroin, along with cocaine and marijuana, are the three most popular drugs.

However, heroin has a secret culture of its own—it seduces, then becomes something to look forward to, becoming a disease along the way. Then, like no other drug can, it poisons and invades one's life, or whatever is left of it by that point.

While conducting research for this piece I came across people, whose lives are forever changed because of this drug. One person will never fully physically recover and to this day needs a small dosage of methadone to live. Another, is 6 months clean, after attempting suicide twice.

Among them are two girls, both experimented (if that's possible) with smack during the recent hype and availability. It breaks down



peaking at 125 pounds in just a matter of two years in 1993. In 1994 it dropped to about half of the prior year at 62 pounds. As of July 1996 it is increasing steadily towards the peak once again.

Keep in mind that these numbers are only a percentage—only representative of the people that have been caught.

"Heroin may be flying above the radar," says Mark Keiman, a drug policy analyst at UCLA.

Heroin's growth in usage is simple economics. It is now historically cheap, purer, safer and is being imported into the country at about 10 to 15 metric tons a year in contrast to half of that in the mid '80s.

In the mid '60s the needle ruled the lives of many Americans, but now because of developments in its production, the purity of heroin is up to 75 percent as opposed to the 2-8 percent purity of the '80s, thus making heroin pure enough to snort or smoke.

In addition to these reasons for its boost is that snorting heroin rules out any contact with needles, blood and therefore, no contact with the AIDS virus. The snorting or smoking method appears to most first-timers as being more

tuous.

"The crashing is the worst feeling in the world. You're full of intense pain. It's like experiencing the most severe flu imaginable. You sweat bullets, and every muscle—from your toes to the tip of your finger is throbbing and in just, so much pain," said a 26-year-old clothing store manager, who also asked to remain anonymous.

Most first-time heroin users induce it by either smoking it (chasing the dragon), or snorting it, sometimes referred to as a "bump."

When speaking to a girl, who experimented with heroin for her first time at the age of 16, about her first experience, the reasons behind it, and her initial impressions she said, "At this point I was already addicted to something [speed], and I wanted 'something,' all my dealer had that night was heroin."

In describing the initial feeling of the drug, she said, "Um, as soon as I snorted it, first off, it smells really bad—like I don't know how to explain it, really strong, like it leaves a sour taste in your mouth when you smell it."

"Anyways, snorting it, it burned. It burned like a bitch. And then there was an immediate head rush, then I felt nauseous because I got a 'drip' [when the drug passes through nasal passages] it felt like a really big cotton ball in my throat."

Vomiting and nausea along with other physical affects are common.

Another girl, who tried heroin for her first time at the age of 17, chased the dragon. "It was a spontaneous thing. They [her friends with her at the time] knew what they wanted, some guy was already selling it and they were curious," said the anonymous girl.

She said her initial feelings were, "It felt really, really— weird. I don't know. I was comfortable but I couldn't move because then I'd get sick. I itched all over my face. Around my nose, my whole face it was gross. I didn't like it. I threw up seven times."

Even though both women have just begun experimenting with heroin, they already have some of the typical characteristics of a user. Both are thin and pale like recent magazine models who seem to be reflecting an acceptance of the drug culture.

According to material the L.A.P.D. distributes to patrol officers: the typical heroin user can be identified with signs such as, "track" marks; "on the nod," low,

slow, raspy speech; dry mouth; nausea; drowsy look; facial itching; inappropriate wearing of dark glasses; forgetfulness; cold, clammy skin; feeling of euphoria; constipation and difficulty in urination.

This appearance of a typical smack-junkie is the one being emulated in the entertainment industry.

"You're dirty, you don't brush your teeth, you go for weeks without bathing or changing your clothes," said Beth, a now toothless woman ravaged from years of heroin use on a recent "Oprah" show. Beth is the woman in the black and white "Partnership For A Drug-Free America" commercials, in which at the end she takes out her fake teeth.

In conjunction with the newest anti-heroin campaigns are the suggestive pro-heroin advertisements. Of course these are not straight-out pictures of Cindy Crawford with her arm tied with a belt, gettin' wasted—that would be too easy.

They are however, suggestive of the "smack look." I've even read about having a "smackhead glow." Would that "glow" be achieved when, while heating the spoon with a flame, the user accidentally catches on fire, therefore "glowing?"

Though some of the most influential and trend-setting fashion designers utilize a more "hinting" method of promoting the fashionably-wasted look by such methods as unbuttoned druggie-thin models (Calvin Klein), and minimal make-up and under-eye dark circles (Prada), just to name a couple.

Others opt for a more in-your-face approach. For example, in a 1996 Newsweek article, the authors wrote: "There have been growing complaints about 'heroin chic' in fashion. Designer Jil Sander drew flak when her catalog showed a druggie-looking woman with one sleeve pushed up."

Now if this isn't pushing the "shit, I'm gettin' wasted look," maybe free sample hypodermics with each purchase would be more effective.

The other day I was flipping through a magazine and came across a five-page photo lay-out with a strung-out-looking Shalom Harlow crowned with ratted-hair, pale skin, minimal make-up, under-eye dark circles, delicate-girlie clothes and a junkie demeanor; thus spawned "heroin chic."

"Heroin chic" is a term that

sums up the lifestyle and will be played-out for at least the next three years and a term that will haunt us in 30.

The totem: "Sex, drugs, and Rock n' Roll" reigns and never has it had such truth than in the last 20 years. Separating the first aspect, "sex," and concentrating on the latter two, "drugs and Rock n' Roll," heroin has had a profound impact on the music industry and their creators. Bands that have had members die since 1992, OD, or be arrested are staggering. Bradley Nowell, front man of the ska-punk trio Sublime died in a San Francisco hotel room in May of '96.

Only a week later Depeche Mode's lead singer David Gahan, who attempted suicide last year was arrested in a West Hollywood hotel on suspicion of drug possession following an overdose of cocaine and you guessed it—heroin.

The next was Phil Anselmo, lead deafener of the thrash metal band, Pantera. In July of '96, Anselmo OD'd at a Dallas concert and was revived after being "dead" for four-to-five minutes. Then last spring, Scott Weiland, lead singer to the alternative band Stone Temple Pilots canceled all concert dates due to his chronic dependency on heroin.

Courtney Love lead singer of Hole an admitted heroin user and widow to the grand master of junkie-somethings himself, Kurt Cobain. Cobain struggled with heroin addiction then committed suicide with a shot to the head in 1994. The list goes on and on.

The movie industry has not escaped accusations of glamorizing heroin use either. May I guide you through the Hollywood walk of shame?

Among famous people being caught with this drug-of-the-month, the most recent in a series of Johnnie-Hollywood's to be caught is Robert Downey Jr. who, ironically played a coke-head in the 1987 film, "Less Than Zero."

Downey, who just in a matter of a few weeks managed to get picked up on three separate heroin-related drug charges is just one of millions of young Americans to be consumed by heroin.

The display of heroin acceptance and growing interest is evident in Quentin Tarantino's movies, "Pulp Fiction" in particular. In "Pulp Fiction" John Travolta plays a dope fiend/ gangster middle-man.

There are scenes in which Travolta buys heroin, mainlines it and even has a little carrying case

for his "works." And how can we forget a purple-lipped, OD'd Uma Thurman with a giant hypodermic in her chest?

The author of a 1996 article in "Detour" wrote, "We have Tarantino to thank for introducing junkie slapstick into the culture." In addition to this movie is the 1996 release "Trainspotting," a movie about Scottish-junkie-smack-head-losers. Promotions for this movie read: "Choose life. Choose a job. Choose your future." Followed with the question of: "But why would anyone want to do a thing like that?"

What people aren't realizing or caring enough about is how hard it is to stop once you've started. The progression of physical heroin dependency starts from the first time.

The body instantly starts developing a tolerance to the drug, making it impossible to achieve the first high. Many addicts devote their entire lives trying to obtain that first rush of euphoria.

The recovering heroin addict answering phone at Impact House said, "If I didn't vomit, scratch, itch that was an indication to me that it wasn't good enough, or I didn't do enough."

"I would get up sick, I would concentrate my whole day on how I was going to get a hold of money, then how I was going to get my fix. It became my 'job,'" said a recovering heroin addict of 23 years, also an in-house resident at Narcotics Anonymous.

After 23 years of addiction, he needs small doses of methadone, an opiate-derived substitute used for treatment, on a regular basis.

Other "glamorous" effects are drastic loss of weight, undernourished appearance, loss of or snaggled-toothed, overall change in physical appearance consistent with that of a "junkie."

Another woman addict said, "You smell really weird, like a pungent sour smell. Like, when you open up a jar of vitamins—sour."

After one year of "self-destruction," she decided to check herself in to a methadone clinic, weighing only 89 pounds.

There are a few common words that come up when speaking of the sad truth of heroin culture. Among them are: disease, loneliness, death and self-destruction.

There's a line in a Smashing Pumpkins song that comes to mind: "Life is a vampire, set to drain." Some people know how to handle the vampire and some for some reason don't. They're the ones that turn to drugs to make it easier to cope.

In Jim Carroll's teenage journal-turned-book entitled, "The Basketball Diaries," Carroll speaks of his romance and the seduction of heroin. He writes, "Just such a pleasure to tie up above that mainline with a woman's silk stocking and hit the mark and watch the blood rise into the dropper like a certain desert lily I remember I saw once when I was in my child's encyclopedia, so red...yeah, I shoot desert lilies into my arm."

Perhaps it's because one shoots it straight into the blood-stream, almost like "feeding" yourself, that it's so personal.

Whatever the reason for the attraction to this intimate method, it's just paving a road to self-destruction.

The strangle hold heroin has is tightening around the necks of America's trend-setting cities like New York, Chicago and Los Angeles. Smack culture has been tagged and blamed as being "glamorous" and "chic."

The reality of heroin is: if you snort or smoke it, you'll more than likely end up shooting it. It boils down to these two choices: death or seeking professional help, for those who are lucky enough to do so.

When you wipe away smack's stardust all you have left is a vomiting, sweating piece of tin—no gold as it's been hyped up to be. The truth is, it's stronger than you.



to this: the numbers—staggering; the users—not typical; the consequences—severe; and the trend—the biggest thing to hit since the coke craze of the '80s.

Heroin's fresh popularity can be traced back five years, when heightened potency and cheaper prices originated, giving the user "more bang for the buck."

According to the L.A.P.D. narcotic arrests and seizure statistics pounds of heroin seized started rising in 1991 with an annual total of 42. It then experienced a steady increase through 1992,

approachable than the classic way of mainlining.

"I wasn't about to stick a needle in my vein. I thought that if I snorted it, considering I had snorted so many other things, that it wouldn't be so bad, or hard core," said an 18-year-old girl who wishes to remain anonymous.

What people aren't realizing or just don't care about is that heroin is one of the - if not the - most addictive drug known. It not only creates an emotional dependency but a physical dependency that when attempted to shake—is tor-



Tau Alpha Epsilon Society, with representatives ready on the site, is part of the team to help for the decoration of The Club Day event.

Every other Wednesday, Associated Student Union (ASU) presents a Club Day. The opening day was on Sept. 4 and included dances as well as live music.

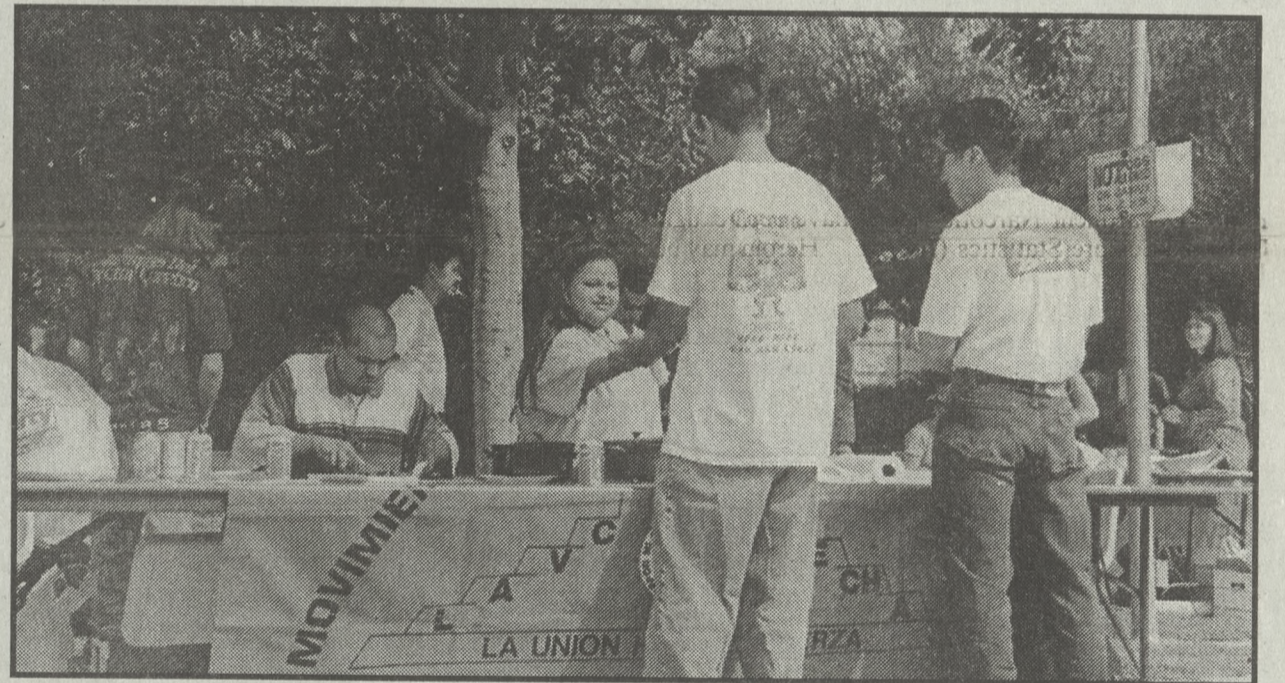
At these events, representatives of various clubs at the college promote their clubs and introduce their programs and activities to the students who want to join.

Some of the participating clubs are:

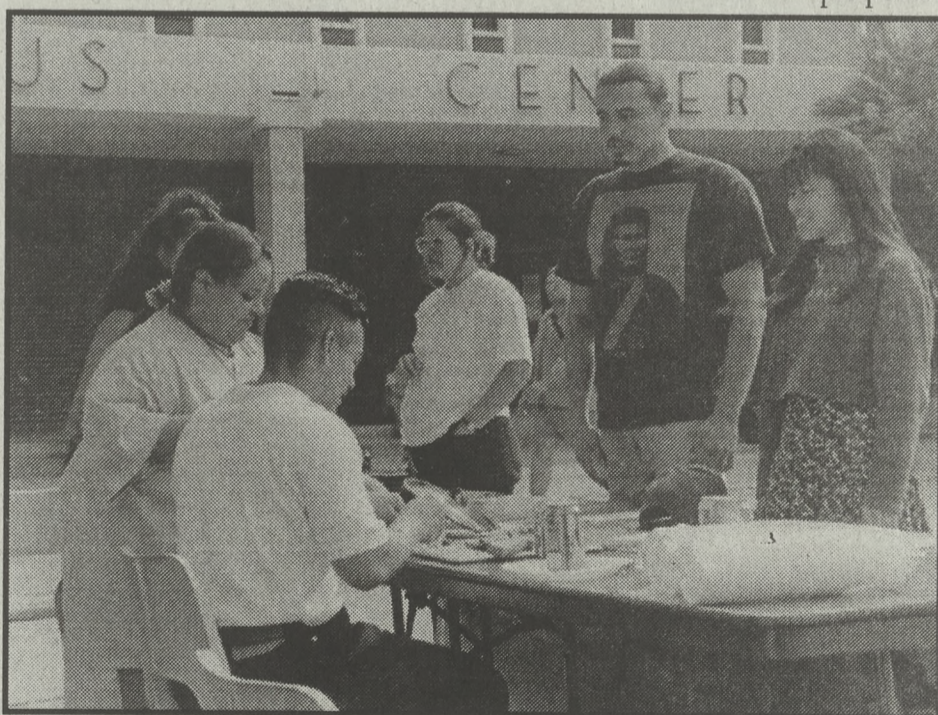
KVCM (Broadcasting radio station), MEChA., Puente, Hillel (Jewish Club), Tau Alpha Epsilon, Black Student Union, Astronomy Club, Armenian Student Association, Filipino Club, Cross Cultures and Spirit Club.

The date for next Club Day is Oct. 23 and will be held in front of the Campus Center at Valley College.

Photos and text by Roobik Nazarian



From left, Lorenzo Trujillo and Maria Euceda, two of the students helping with food preparation



The Campus Center was the focus of the Club Day event. Pictured are Gabriel Ruiz Jr, president of the Associate Student Union, second from right with Jouse Kuy, ASU Treasurer, second from right, among other students who visited The Club Day on October 16th.



Teni Zarookian, Treasurer for Armenian Student Association, has a good reason to be present at these events, to promote her club to other students.



From left, Steeve Luv, representative from the Dating Game Show on KTLA, together with Ingrid Olortegui, a student from Valley College.

Monarchs Sauce The Tartars 47-6

Compton falls to Valley in lopsided victory, Monarchs record goes to 4-1

By JENNIFER CORTESE
STAFF WRITER

Valley Monarchs continued their away game victory march with a lopsided 47-6 finish over Compton's Tartars Saturday at Tay Brown Field.

The Monarch's highly-tuned defense unleashed an awe-inspiring on-the-ground attack, recording the first defensive touchdown of the season on a fumble recovery by Jerry Melikyan.

Melikyan, who earned W.S.C. co-defensive player of the week honors, took command of the Tartars with six tackles and two quarterback sacks. "It was very good [the award] but it was all teamwork," said Melikyan. "The team is the star."

Marcus Harvey earned W.S.C. co-offensive player of the week honors by totaling 41 yards on kickoff returns, rushing for 109 yards and scoring the game's first touchdown. "I don't dwell on the honors," said Harvey. "I concentrate on executing the plays and scoring."

Monarch back-up players also met the Tartar's challenge, as Tom Racius threw for two touchdowns (8 for 10, 67 yards). Bryan Paul (4 of 5, 56 yards) and Scott Spruill (3 for 5, 15 yards, 1 TD) added to the air attack. Dave Lins started as quarterback (5 of 6, 59 yards) and as the Monarchs top passer, Lins has yet to be intercepted.

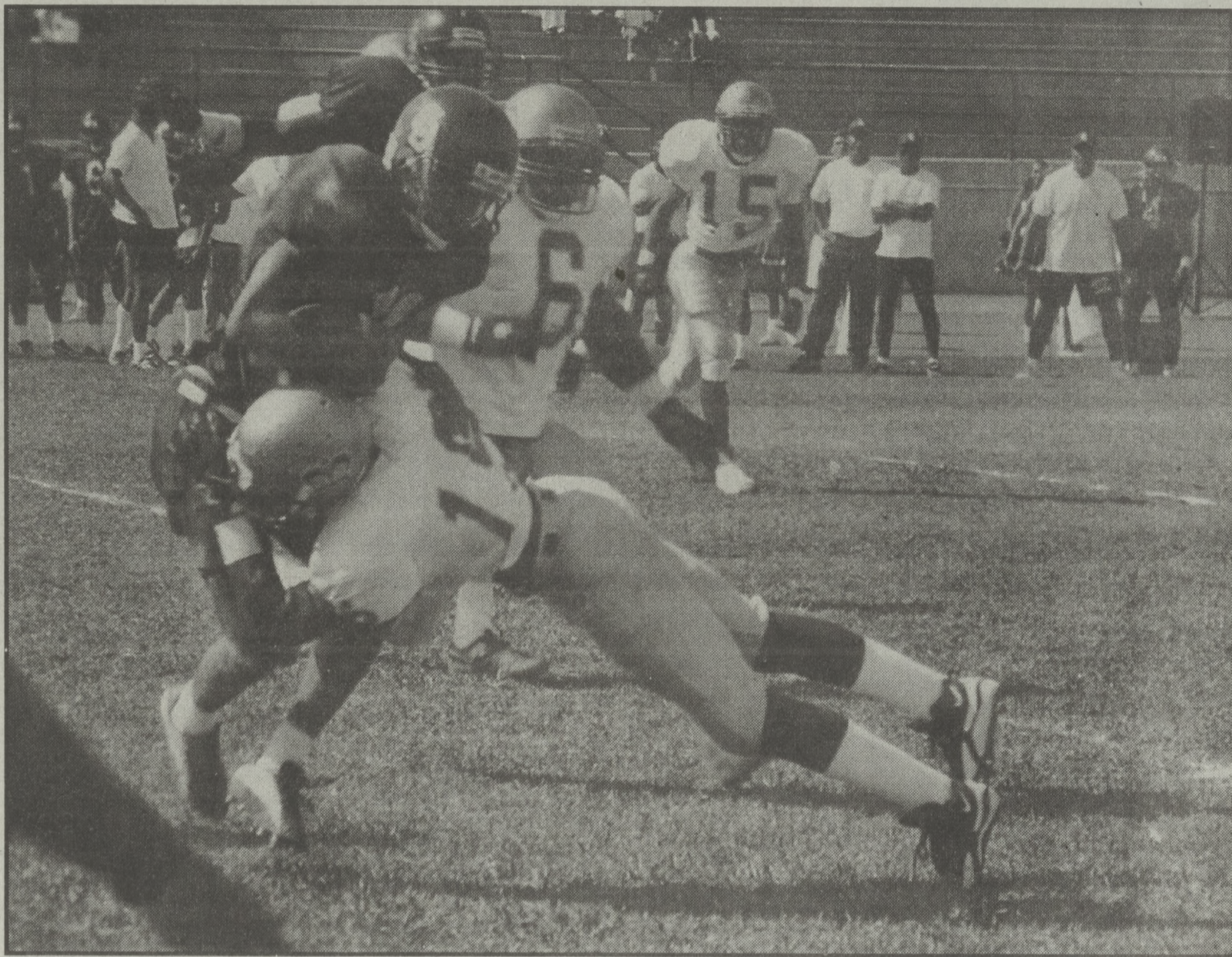
Antwane Smith answered many calls from scrimmage and contributed to two touchdown runs and one touchdown pass to sauce the Tartars. Receivers Kenyatta Burris (1 TD, 22 yards), and Brett Miller (1 TD, 8 yards) also factored in the 47-6 blowout.

Only one touchdown was made in the second half, giving Coach Fenwick an overall look at many offensive and defensive players on the 1996 squad for a possible return to a WSC championship.

Julio Gramajo suffered a fractured fibula during the second quarter and may not be able to complete the rest of the season.

This Saturday, the Monarchs take to the road once again to battle cross-town rivals, the Pierce Brahmas. Kickoff is at 7:00 p.m. at Shepherd Stadium in Woodland Hills. The Pierce Brahmas are winless this year, and are trying to break a 12 game losing streak they started last season.

Photo courtesy of Dale Beck, Monarch press relations



Defensive back Courtney Blunt delivers a massive tackle to a Compton rusher.

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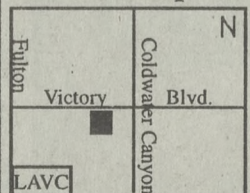
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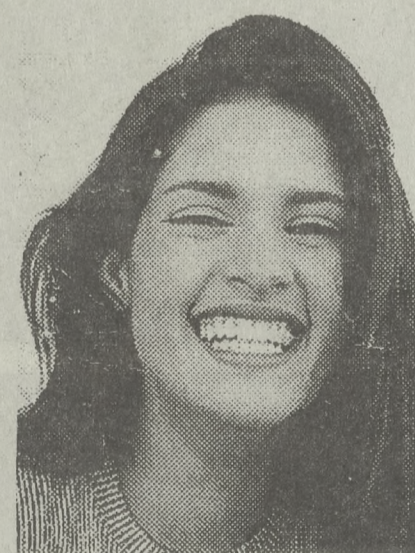


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